

Kinship Caregiver Summit: Relatives Caring for Children

The Erie County Kinship Caregiver Coalition's Summit for professionals working with kinship caregivers will provide an overview of current legislation, advocacy efforts, legal issues, and current research and services for these families.

One goal of the Summit is to bring needed attention to this large group of caregivers who are often caught in the complex maze of legal and social issues that arise when families take on the task of raising children whose parents can no longer care for them. Participants will learn about various providers in the area and through networking with others, information can be shared for the benefit of families in the county.

Participants from any county are welcome, and caregivers are also invited.

The Summit is made possible by a generous grant from the AARP and New York Life foundations, with support from Catholic Charities of Buffalo Kinship Caregiver Program and EPIC.

Summit Site Information

The Summit will be held in the Auditorium of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, 1 Lafayette Square. The Auditorium is located near the Clinton St. entrance on the ground floor. There is no parking on site, but there are surface lots and ramps nearby, including at Washington and Broadway, and Clinton and Ellicott streets.

Program

**8:30 – 9 a.m. Registration,
Coffee and Pastries**

9 a.m. – Helen Massey, Caregiver
“Kinship Caregivers in Our Area”

9:15 a.m. – Keynote Speaker
Gerard Wallace, Esq.,
“A Family Right to Care”

10 a.m. – Judge Margaret Szczur, New
York State Family Court,
County of Erie
“Kinship Placements &
Family Court”

10:40 a.m. – Break

11 a.m. – Panel – Perspectives on the
Needs of Kinship Families:
• Kevin Blair, PhD, David
Taylor, PhD, Niagara University School of Social Work
• Erie County Department
of Social Services
• Dorothy Hawkins,
Grandparent Advocacy
Program

12:30 – 1 p.m. Speakers will be available for
questions after the program.

8:30 – 1 p.m. – Resource Tables

Erie County Kinship Caregiver Coalition Summit Planning Committee

Catholic Charities of Buffalo

Every Person Influences Children (EPIC)

Erie County Department of Senior
Services

Erie County
Legal Services
for the Elderly,
Disabled or
Disadvantaged

Neighborhood
Legal Services

Erie County
Department of
Social Services

Mid-Erie Counseling and Treatment
Services

New York State Family Court,
County of Erie

New York State Office of Children and
Families Services, Buffalo Regional Office



Registration Form

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Walk-in registrations will be accepted as space permits. There is no charge for this summit. Any contributions will be used to help sponsor a summit later in 2006 for kinship caregivers.

Resource Tables

If you would like to host a resource table, please register below. There is limited space for tables, so you can choose to bring brochures as an alternative to using a full table. Call Tomi Jindra at (716) 856-4494, ext. 3057.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**Please mail or fax this form
by June 1st to:**

Tomi Jindra, Catholic Charities, 525
Washington St., Buffalo, 14203.
Fax: (716) 853-4452

KINSHIP CAREGIVER SUMMIT: RELATIVES CARING FOR CHILDREN



***June 7, 2006
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.***

***Buffalo & Erie County
Public Library***

1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY

Presented by:

The Kinship Caregiver Coalition of
Erie County

Sponsored by:

The AARP Foundation
New York Life Foundation
Catholic Charities of Buffalo
Kinship Caregiver Program
Every Person Influences Children (EPIC)